

## **Egremont Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Committee**

**January 18, 2022, 3:00 pm. Held Via ZOOM**

**In Attendance:** Bruce Bernstein, Will Brinker, Donna Bersch, Emily Eyre, Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Joyce Frater, Fred Gordon, Juliette Haas (Recording), Ed McCormick

**Also Attending:** Joanna Nadeau and Steven Roy, Weston & Sampson

- 1) Juliette Haas, sitting in for Chairman Will Conklin, called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm and noted the meeting was being recorded to Zoom. Those in attendance were introduced. Motion made and seconded to adopt the minutes from the October 5, 2021 meeting as presented. Vote taken and motion passed unanimously. Motion made and seconded to adopt the minutes from the January 11, 2022 meeting as presented. Vote taken and motion passed unanimously. Juliette stated Chairman Conklin will be returning from paternity leave and will be chairing future meetings.
- 2) **Expression of Interest (EOI):** Juliette informed the committee of the long conversation she had with MVP Regional CarrieAnne Petrick. It was from that brainstorming session and review of material submitted by Alison Dixon of the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) that led Juliette to distribute to the committee for their review a draft EOI proposal entitled "Stream Restoration for Flood Resilience and Environmental Stewardship". The proposal seeks the upgrade of town culverts which feed into the Green River and Karner Brook and educational, outreach and community engagement plans including protection of water resources from agricultural and livestock runoff, pesticides and road salt, mapping of wells and septic systems within Green River and Karner Brook flood plains, teaching the principals of carbon sequestration, and pursuing riparian plantings to enhance and protect river and stream banks from future erosion. The proposal's estimated project cost is \$675,000. Weston & Sampson representatives spoke to the phasing approach of culvert replacements which is a two-step process first involving design and permitting as the permitting can sometimes be extensive and involved and then the second phase of installation. The design phase includes a hydraulic assessment which takes into consideration downstream impacts. Considering the work already performed by HVA and the design and permitting work that is finalized on a Blunt Road culvert, the committee agreed to also submit an EOI for construction costs for this culvert replacement. This culvert has been determined to be a top priority and will be replaced with a model which is friendly to fish and wildlife habitat. Committee members present agreed to the submission of these two proposals. The EOI applications will allow project vetting sessions with MVP reviewers.
- 3) **Possible Future Projects:** Lucinda expressed interest in pursuing a forest management project proposal which would address forest health, address invasives and best management practices. Joyce expressed her interest in submitting a project proposal in the future for addressing the weeds in Prospect Lake.
- 4) **MVP Plan Update:** Joanna from Weston & Sampson spoke to the steps currently underway: scheduling interviews with Police, Fire, Water, Emergency Management, Conservation Commission and Board of Health department heads. A committee meeting will be called sometime in February after those interviews take place. Drafts of Chapters 1, 2 and 3 have been submitted for committee review. Chapter 4 is in the initial review phase. The public information session will be scheduled sometime in March (date to be determined soon).
- 5) Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Juliette S. Haas, Approved 3/1/2022